

Easter: Coming Back Stronger

"What Doesn't Kill You Makes You Stronger", Part 2 of 7
Pastor Vince DiPaola

"Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had."
(Philippians 2:5, NLT)

**How Christ Came Back Stronger On Easter
(And How We Can Too)**

I) CHRIST'S SETBACKS AND HIS COMEBACK!

1) Leaving heaven, He ___WILLINGLY EMPTIED HIMSELF__.

"Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God. He made himself nothing..."
(Philippians 2:6-7a, NLT)

2) Arriving on earth, He ___FOCUSED ON OTHERS OVER SELF__.

"...taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."
(Philippians 2:7b, NIV)

3) Throughout life, He _HUMBLY ACCEPTED GOD'S DAUNTING PLAN_.

"And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself..."
(Philippians 2:8a, NIV)

4) On the cross, He ___PAID THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE SIN REQUIRED__.

"...and became obedient to death— even death on a cross!"
(Philippians 2:8b, NIV)

5) The result? He ___ROSE AND CAME BACK STRONGER THROUGH IT__.

"Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."
(Philippians 2:9-11, NIV)

II) CHRIST MADE A WAY FOR OUR COMEBACK!

"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."
(Philippians 2:12-13, NIV)

"And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you."
(Romans 8:11, NIV)

"It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you... you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!"
(Romans 8:11, The Message)

III) HOW TO COMEBACK STRONGER ON EASTER

1) Acknowledge your ___MANY SIN SETBACKS___ to God.

"The blood of Jesus.. purifies us from all sin.. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1John 1:7&9, NIV)

2) Admit your ___NEED FOR A SPIRITUAL COMEBACK___ in Christ.

"And Jesus Christ our Lord was shown to be the Son of God when God powerfully raised him from the dead by means of the Holy Spirit... God loves you dearly, and he has called you to be his very own people."
(Romans 1:4&7, NLT)

3) Accept God's ___FREE GIFT OF A NEW LIFE COMEBACK___ thru Christ.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
(John 3:16, NIV)

"To all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God."
(John 1:12, NLT)

Next Sunday we continue the series with: "Pain Is Gain"

Lakeshore Community Church

April 24, 2011 (S184-850)